

**HALLAM FC vs SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY XI****Pre-Season Friendly****Monday 18th July 2016 - Sandygate Road, S10 5SE****Ground Regulations**

Everybody who visits Sandygate on match-day must follow the clubs rules & regulations.
Any official may ask you to leave the ground if you do any of the following:

- ◆ Enter the Ground without Paying
- ◆ Enter the field of play before, during or after a game without Permission
- ◆ Throw anything onto the field of play
- ◆ Use obscene or abusive language (racial or otherwise), or violence of any nature

2015 - 16 Season Review

Ryan Hindley and his management team masterminded an excellent 2015/16 campaign for The Countrymen as they finished sixth in the league and reached the semi-finals of the Sheffield and Hallamshire Senior Cup. Inspired by a 40-goal haul from striker Michael Blythen, they were unfortunate not to reap further rewards, only denied a place in the inaugural NCEL first division playoff final by two late goals from Bottesford Town, who went on to seal the third promotion place.

Containing nine months chock-full of highlights in a season review is a tall order, but it is a joy to reflect on the stunning FA Vase comeback against Harworth, Steve Brammer single-handedly destroying Westella and at least two absolute worldies from Micah Bishop - and too many moments of Blythen magic to mention.

Hallam started the season with four impressive victories but later saw two of them expunged after Lincoln Moorlands resigned from the league. They then showed the character that would serve them well all season with a hard-fought point at Penlstone - Brammer netting the vital late equaliser after Jack Dennison had been sent off.

Thumping wins at Glasshoughton and Teversal, including a Blythen stunner, followed before a big test at home to Bottesford. The visitors emerged victorious in a controversial encounter, and Hallam struggled to gain momentum at home, perhaps partly due to losing promising youngster Callum Greaves to Chesterfield. Success on the road continued with a 4-0 win at Winterton.

Hindley's side seemed to recover their



home spark as Blythen inspired two superb wins in five days: first, Harworth Colliery came to Sandygate in the FA Vase and stunned their hosts by racing into a three-goal lead, thanks in part to two excellent long-range strikes. But Hallam emerged a different side after the break, scoring four times in eight minutes to earn a place in the first round. Rossington Main also took the lead a few days later, but Blythen's second hat-trick in five days led the home side to a 5-1 win.

A successful Non-League Day followed, a crowd of 325 witnessing defeat against an impressive Hemsforth despite a superlative-defying strike from Bishop, a 35-yard volley which smacked the crossbar on its way into the net.

After an eye-catching Senior Cup victory at Athersley and a big win at Grimsby, Hallam were again beaten at home, though the result against Hull United was ultimately chalked off as the visitors had fielded a player under suspension. Progression in the Vase and Senior Cup came either

side of a smash-and-grab at Sandgate by Eccleshill United before two further away wins kept Hallam fighting at the top.

The Countrymen then travelled to Handsworth in the Vase and were unfortunate to bow out 3-2 in a feisty affair. Selby then avenged the earlier Vase defeat by progressing in the League Cup with a winner in the last minute of extra time.

Some games fell victim to the weather as Christmas approached, but Hallam began to build some momentum with a nine-match unbeaten run that included valuable points against Emley and Penlstone and a stunning win over Mansfield at Sandgate.

However, every good season has its blip, and a dip in form followed, including a first away defeat against Bottesford. This side have a great depth of character, and finished the regular season with eleven games without defeat. The third game of this run was a well-earned 2-2 draw and runaway leaders Hemsforth, for whom Bishop is a constant menace. Seconds into the second half, he unleashed an exocet from 40 yards which swerved into the top corner, before bombing forward to net a late equaliser for 10-man Hallam.

The Countrymen then successfully negotiated a tricky Senior Cup quarter-final against Houghton Main, Harry Bamforth netting the winner just before half-time. Grimsby Borough then ensured the stuttering home form continued with a late equaliser before James Reed's long-ranger earned a huge win against Hull in an unusual fixture - officially an away game but played at Sandgate due to difficulties Hull were experiencing off the pitch. It was

to see them relegated due to a breach of league rules.

Connor Chappell, one of a number of promising youngsters, got on the scoresheet in a comfortable win at Worsborough before Hallam welcomed Frickley Athletic to Sandgate in the semi-final of the Sheffield & Hallamshire Senior Cup. Sadly, the visitors' superior finishing showed as they ran out 5-1 winners but the result was far from a fair reflection and the hosts gave their fans plenty of reasons to be proud of them.

A hard-fought draw at Eccleshill was followed by three convincing wins as the Countrymen finished the campaign in excellent form. Blythen in particular showed his class, scoring eight in four games before a final day stalemate at already-promoted Mansfield. By then, Hallam had already secured a playoff berth. Sadly, it was a step too far as a tight game was settled by two late goals.

So, a season in which success off the pitch was mirrored by an excellent campaign on it ended with plenty of hope for the season to come. Having fallen just short of promotion, the club is already looking forward to the possibility of going one better next year. Under Hindley and the chairmanship of Steve Basford, the club has come a long way in a very short time, and the future looks promising at Sandgate. Our other teams also enjoyed successful seasons. Off the pitch, the club saw significant growth in exposure through social media and local media outlets, as well as a significant increase in home attendances. With additions to both the squad and the coaching staff on top of this, the future is looking bright at Sandygate.

About our Visitors: Sheffield Wednesday

The club was a cricket club when it formed in 1820 as "The Wednesday Cricket Club" (named after the day of the week when they played their matches). A meeting on the evening of Wednesday 4 September 1867 at the Adelphi Hotel established a footballing side to keep the team together and fit during the winter months. They played their first match against The Mechanics on 19 October the same year.

It soon became apparent that football would come to eclipse the cricketing side of the club. On 1 February 1868, Wednesday played their first competitive football match as they entered the Cromwell Cup, a four-team competition for newly formed clubs. They went on to win the cup, beating the Garrick Club 1–0 after extra time in the final at Bramall Lane.

Charles Clegg joined the Wednesday in 1867, starting a relationship that would last the rest of his life and eventually lead to his becoming the club's chairman. He also became president and chairman of the Football Association and known as the "Napoleon of Football". Clegg played for England in the first-ever international match, against Scotland in November 1872, thereby becoming Wednesday's first international player. In 1876 they acquired Scot James Lang. Although he was not employed by the club, he was given a job by a member of the Sheffield Wednesday board that had no formal duties. He is now acknowledged as the first professional football player in England.

The 1880s saw two major events that radically changed the face of the club. In

1882 the cricket and football clubs parted company; the cricket club ceased to exist in 1925. The football club turned professional in 1887 after pressure from players threatening to defect to other clubs.

The move to professionalism took the club from Bramall Lane, which had taken a share of the ticket revenue, to the new Olive Grove. In 1889 the club became founder members of the Football Alliance, of which they were the first champions in a season where they also reached the 1890 FA Cup Final, losing 6–1 to Blackburn Rovers at Kennington Oval, London. Despite finishing the following season bottom of the Alliance, they were eventually elected to the expanded Football League in 1892. They won the FA Cup for the first time in 1896, beating Wolverhampton Wanderers 2–1 at Crystal Palace.

Due to an expansion of the local railway lines, the club was told that they would have to find a new ground for the 1899–1900 season. After a difficult search the club finally bought some land in the village of Owlerton, which at the time was several miles outside the Sheffield city boundaries. Construction of a new stadium (now known as Hillsborough Stadium) was completed within months and the club was secured for the next century. In a strong decade, Wednesday won the League in the 1902–03 and 1903–04 seasons and the FA Cup again in 1907, beating Everton 2–1, again at Crystal Palace. After this the team lacked accomplishment for another two decades.

The 1950s saw Wednesday unable to consistently hold on to a position in the top flight and this period became known as the yo-yo years. After being promoted in 1950 they were relegated three times, although each time they returned to the top flight by winning the Second Division the following season. The decade ended on a high note with the team finishing in the top half of the First Division for the first time since the Second World War. Wednesday were relegated at the end of the 1969–70 season; this began the darkest period in the club's history. Their decline continued; they dropped to the Third Division for the first time in their history and were marooned there for five seasons. The club was almost relegated to the Fourth Division in 1976, but a revival under the management of Jack Charlton and—after Charlton resigned in 1983—Howard Wilkinson saw them return to the First Division in 1984.

Sheffield Wednesday spent most of the 1980s and 1990s in the top tier of English football, but by contrast have now (2016) spent more consecutive time outside the top tier, 16 years, than at any other time in their history.

The 1990–91 season was the only one out of 16 in a row that Wednesday spent in a lower division, but the season is best remembered by fans for Wednesday's swift return to the top flight under the management of Ron Atkinson and their League Cup victory over Manchester United to win their first major trophy for over 50 years. This League Cup triumph was the last domestic cup to be won by a club competing outside the top level



of English football. The following season Wednesday finished third in the league. The 1992–93 season established Sheffield Wednesday as a top club as they visited Wembley four times during the season – a League Cup final and an FA Cup semi-final, final and replay. In the FA Cup semi-finals they recorded a historic 2–1 win over their city rivals Sheffield United. However Wednesday failed to win any silverware, losing to Arsenal in both League and FA Cup finals, the latter after Andy Linighan's late extra-time winner in the replay brought The Gunners victory.

Wednesday lifted the 2005 League One Playoff Trophy. Wednesday's fortunes took a turn for the worse when a succession of managers failed to maintain this form; first David Pleat and later Danny Wilson spent large sums building squads that were ultimately ineffective, and the club lost control of its debts as a result. Danny Wilson was sacked in March 2000; his assistant Peter Shreeves took temporary charge but was unable to stave off relegation. The club's flirtation with relegation continued in Division One and after yet more managerial changes Chris Turner was hired as boss

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Sheffield Wednesday

and made a strong effort to rejuvenate the side. However, a failure to beat Brighton & Hove Albion in the penultimate game of the 2002–03 season condemned them to another relegation.

After narrowly avoiding yet another relegation in 2003–04 and a poor start to the 2004–05 Football League One campaign, Turner was replaced by former Southampton and Plymouth Argyle manager Paul Sturrock. Sturrock revitalised Sheffield Wednesday's fortunes and they finished fifth in League One at the end of the 2004–05 season, qualifying for the promotion playoffs. Over 42,000 Owls fans travelled to Cardiff to watch Wednesday beat Hartlepool United 4–2 after extra time in the playoff final, and return to the

Championship. Sturrock guided Sheffield Wednesday to Championship survival in 2005–06 but was sacked after a poor start to the 2006–07 season and replaced by Brian Laws, who led Wednesday to a ninth-place finish in the Championship after having an outside chance of reaching the play-offs until the penultimate game of the season.

The 2007–08 season began with Wednesday's worst-ever start to a season, losing six league games in a row. Chairman Dave Allen resigned in November 2007, and Wednesday avoided relegation with a win on the last day of the season. The Owls improved in 2008–09 and finished in 12th place, with the best home defensive record in the division. Halfway through Sheffield

Wednesday's 2009–10 season Brian Laws was sacked, and was replaced by Alan Irvine. On the last day of the season, needing a win to stay up, Wednesday drew 2–2 with Crystal Palace and were relegated to League One.

Between July and November 2010, Sheffield Wednesday faced a series of winding up orders for unpaid tax and VAT bills. On 29 November 2010 Milan Mandarić agreed to purchase the club. The purchase was completed after an extraordinary general meeting of Sheffield Wednesday's shareholders on 14 December 2010, during which 99.7% of shareholders voted to sell the company to Milan Mandarić's UK Football Investments for £1. Mandarić agreed to settle the club's outstanding debts as part of the largely confidential deal. As of 3 February 2011 Alan Irvine stated he had parted company with Wednesday after a crisis meeting following a 5–3 defeat by Peterborough.

Gary Megson replaced Irvine as the club's manager and The Owls went on to finish 15th in League One. The following season, the Owls pushed for promotion from League One, but after falling behind Charlton and Sheffield United at the top of the table, and despite a thrilling 1–0 derby win over their Steel City rivals, Megson was sacked and replaced by Dave Jones. Jones went on to guide the Owls to 10 wins and 2 draws from the last 12 games, securing promotion to the Championship on the final day in a 2–0 home victory over Wycombe Wanderers in front of the largest Football League attendance of the season, 38,082,

of which only 487 came from Wycombe.

Under Jones, Wednesday secured survival in their first season back in the Championship with a 2–0 win over Middlesbrough on the final day of the 2012–13 campaign. However, after a dismal start to the 2013–14 season featuring just one win in 16 games, Dave Jones was sacked, with caretaker manager Stuart Gray taking temporary charge. Wednesday saw an upturn in fortunes under Gray, and after a good run of results including a record 6–0 win over Yorkshire rivals Leeds United, he was appointed as head coach on a permanent basis, leading the Owls to a 16th-place finish.

The 2014–15 season saw Wednesday welcome a new owner, Thai businessman Delphon Chansiri, who purchased the club from Milan Mandarić for £37.5m. The Owls also enjoyed their highest league finish since relegation to League One, reaching 13th place in the Championship, matching the club's clean sheet record in the process. Chansiri stated his aim to get Wednesday back in the Premier League by 2017, the year of the club's 150th anniversary. Along with replacing Gray with Portuguese coach Carlos Carvalho, he invested heavily in the club's facilities and playing squad, with players such as Fernando Forestieri and Marco Matias arriving for seven-figure sums. The club nearly achieved this goal at the end of the 2015–16 season, losing in the final of the 2016 English Football Playoff to Hull; a victory would have resulted in promotion back to the Premiership.

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We can help you arrange the finer details of your party or just provide you with a blank canvas on which to plan your event.

We can recommend a DJ, provide kitchen facilities if you wish to self cater and also apply for your bar extension.

Why not contact Manager Jane Basford?

We will happy to check the diary and accommodate your event or party in the 1860!

Contact sales@hallamfc.co.uk for more details

Hallam FC Squad



Manager: Ryan Hindley
Coaching Staff: Stuart Lowe
Stephen Whitehead
Rob Ward
Physio: Jerry Shevills

David Darwent
Jack Dennison
Elliot Simpson
Max Pemberton
Simon Mirfin
Tom Roebuck
Tim Whittaker
James Reed
Jack Hargreaves
Michael Blythen
Scott Bates
Micah Bishop
Daniel Flynn
Jake Mason
Connor Chappie
Jed Phillips
Callum Greaves
Steve Brammer
Wes Hill
Jake Livett

Sheffield Wednesday Dev. Squad



Academy Staff: Dean Ramsdale
Neil Thompson
Steve Haslam
Paul Murray
Max Wragg
Ben Wilkinson
Danny Cadamerterl
David Hirst
Nicky Weaver

Cameron Dawson
Jonatas Centeno
Jack Lee
Connor O'Grady
Matt Penney
Elliot Percival
Jordan Thorniley
Sean Clare
Warren Clarke
Charlie Hayford
Connor Kirby
James Murphy
Jack Stobbs
Franck Betra
George Hirst
Devante Rodney